

House Resolution 1142

By: Representatives Gaines of the 117th, Wiedower of the 119th, and Frye of the 118th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Vivian "Vinnie" Marie Williams and commending her for
2 her years of leadership and service at the *Oconee Enterprise*; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Vivian "Vinnie" Marie Williams was born on July 16, 1920, in Charleston,
4 South Carolina, and quickly became a prolific writer, penning her first columns for a local
5 paper at the age of 16; and

6 WHEREAS, Williams moved with her family to Florida where she attended Florida State
7 University and met her husband, Sergeant Roy Williams; and

8 WHEREAS, she became an influential author and wrote critically acclaimed novels such as
9 *Fruit Tramp* and *Walk Egypt*; and

10 WHEREAS, Williams became the editor of the *Oconee Enterprise* in 1981 and owner of the
11 publication in 1986, elevating the *Enterprise* to an institutional pillar of local media through
12 her talented writing and journalistic integrity; and

13 WHEREAS, using the same work ethic and character that built her professional career, she
14 dedicated herself to bettering the community as a founding member of the Oconee County
15 Veterans Memorial Foundation and a long-time supporter of the Oconee Fire Rescue
16 Appreciation Banquet; and

17 WHEREAS, Williams was recognized for her illustrious career by the Marquis *Who's Who*
18 *in America* in 2004; the Gold Club of the Georgia Press Association in 2014; and by her alma
19 mater, where she received an honorary PhD degree; and

20 WHEREAS, the passing of Vinnie Williams marks the loss of not only a trailblazing
21 professional, but a dedicated servant and close friend to many people in the Athens and
22 Oconee communities.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
24 the members of this body honor the legacy of Vivian "Vinnie" Marie Williams and offer
25 sincere condolences to her family and friends.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
27 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
28 family of Vivian "Vinnie" Marie Williams.